pennsylvania musician
magazine

Vol.42 #498 Apr 2025

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8-Ragged Grace 6pm-8pm
9-Karaoke 6pm-9pm
10-Music Bingo 6:30pm-8:30pm
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12-Stricken 8pm-11pm
13-Nirvana Animal Rescue Fund Raiser 12pm-4pm, Line Dancing 6pm-9pm
14-Trivia with Big John 6:30pm-8:30pm
16-Karaoke 6pm-9pm
17-Free Jukebox and Pool Tables 6pm-9pm
18-Justin Murphy 6pm-8pm, Barrett Lee band (Roy) 8pm-11pm
19-No Reply 8pm -11pm
20-Happy Easter! Open 11am-11pm.
21-Trivia with Big John 6:30pm-8:30pm
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25-Hank the Buffalo 6pm-8pm, Renegade Radio 8pm-1pm
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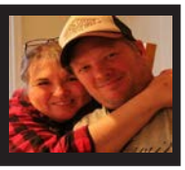
EDITOR RAMBLINGS
By Josh Noll



Hello PA Musicians and music lovers, welcome to Spring! The birds are chirping, and the sun is shining. The cold winter has passed, and we are now ready to get out and start enjoying some outdoor music.

We have a busy month ahead as the mother of the PA Musician, and co-founder Robin Noll, is moving to a new location. Leaving what became known as the "PA Musician Bed and Breakfast," "The Farm," and what we called home for 30 years is no easy task. But it is something that must be done. No worries, Mother is fine—she is just moving to a smaller, one-floor location where she will have fewer chores to do (although I'm sure she will still try to mow her own yard). The infamous "Whitey's Office" has been dismantled, and the rare artifacts have been split between family members. Getting old is no easy chore, but it is something no one escapes. She will continue helping on the paper through the wonders of the internet. When asked if she was retiring, she laughed it off and said, "Joshua, if you try to retire me!!" and that was the end of that conversation. As you read this, the former "Office of the PA Musician Magazine and Shopper's Remedy" will have been torn down and moved to a new secret location farther into the hills of beautiful Juniata County.

Onto other news, we have another new advertiser this month: TGM Sound Productions has been around for quite some time and does a lot of work with the popular "Stonewood," along with events at Deer Run Camping Resort. TGM specializes in sound reinforcement & stage lighting for live events. Run by Travis Mathna out of Gardners, PA, you can find him on facebook.com/TGMSoundProductions, call 717-752-0627, or email TGMsound@yahoo.com. While you're at it, check out Deer Run Camping Resort on Facebook for a full list of summer events, each featuring different themed shows. With the Memorial Day Weekend featuring "The Nobles," the S'mores Jam Music Festival on May 30th to 31st, and the Father's Day weekend with "Payload Rock Band," Deer Run Camping Resort has events and camping for all types, from rock and country to pop and rap. Stop by and check them out.

We have a special event coming up down at Reverb in Reading, PA on Saturday, May 3rd. It's Chaos & Carnage 2025, featuring music by Dying Fetus, Cradle of Filth, Flesh God Apocalypse, Ne Obliviscaris, and many more! It's going to be an all-day, all-ages show you don't want to miss. The outdoor stage kicks off at noon, with the main indoor stage starting at 4 p.m. Tickets are $39.50 in advance and $45 the day of the show. Re-entry will be allowed until 6 p.m. Make your plans now and get your tickets early.

That's it for this month. If you would like to be part of PA Musician Magazine, please give me a call or a text at 717-636-4203 or email: joshnoll@pamusician.net. We offer the cheapest rates around for print advertising, and we are the only music-dedicated magazine in the area. We are designed as a tool for local musicians and venues. Please use the tools provided for you and contact us today. Later, Tater.

[A note from "Mother"— Just want to let everyone know I am doing great and I will still be working with Josh and I would like to THANK ALL of you who have supported us for over 40 YEARS!! We are FAMILY!! To join the family text Josh by Thursday, April 24th and join with us in letting people know that you are out there making beautiful music.]

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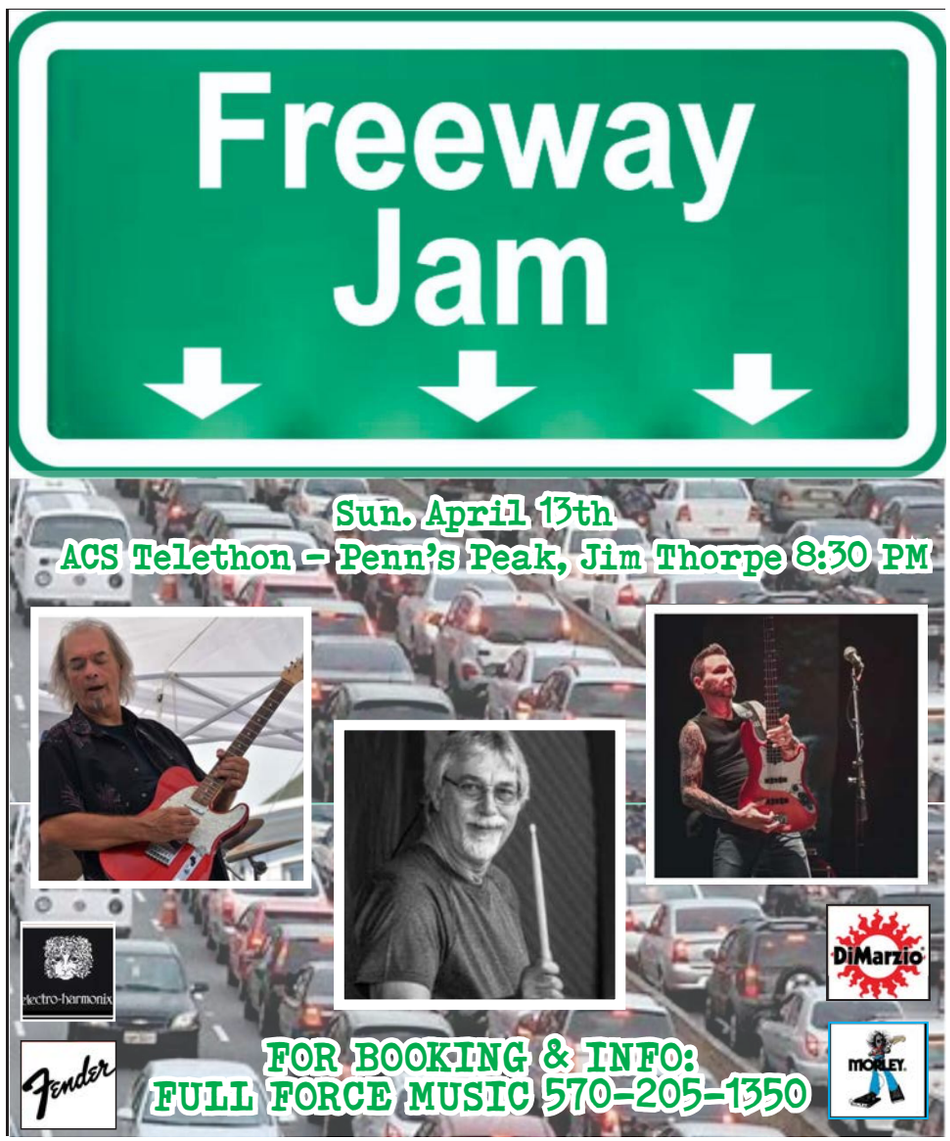
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OUT 'N' ABOUT

By Rachel Rocks

April… ahhh we made it out of the dark, dismal winter!! I'm outside working on this article soaking up the sun! Winter always feels like it's never going to end, but we pulled through once again. The music was popping this past month, just like the buds on the trees! So here we go!

My adventure started many moons ago with a trip up to Shermans Creek Inn for Slade Heller Acoustic solo show. Slade popped up on stages in front of me many times this month, but this was the first time I saw him play a full show by himself. Slade was playing a bar side show because during the week they usually don't get much of a crowd, but Slade had the whole dining room packed. He's so much fun and just an overall amazing guy. If you haven't seen him yet.. trust me you will soon. He's playing percussion for Hank the Buffalo, Ragged Grace, and The Night Howls, so with 3 projects all happening at once, he's a busy guy! The Shermans Creek Inn also just opened their outside tent, so there are even more opportunities for music throughout the Spring and Summer, and there is NEVER a cover charge! If you haven't made it up to the Creek yet, do yourself a favor and go check it out!

On a Friday my night started off early with a trip out to Hollywood Grantville for the last performance at Penn Draft House with DMC Duo. I was there in time to hear them play their original "Getaway". It's awesome to see how many streams these two are getting with their original music, and the playlists they are getting added to. If you're looking for some new music to add to your playlist, look no further, stream DMC Duo today!

After their first set, I scooped up Cindy and we met up with Megan and her hubby Matt at Big Bottom Brewery in Dillsburg for some Jason Carst. In typical Rachel Rocks fashion, I made it for the end of the show, but we managed to sing and dance to a couple songs and snag some screen time on his livestream. He also had some guest singers up there, one of which was Megan herself!

Megan was having so much fun that we kidnapped her from her hubby, and we then zoomed off to Flinchy's for the last set of Hank the Buffalo. Flinchy's was of course packed! ItWe squeezed our way in and wiggled our way to the front, and before we knew it, Megan was singing with Hank the Buffalo too. It's awesome to see how much braver Megan is out at shows! We are all family, and we love hearing and supporting each other, that's what it's all about!

On a Saturday night it was time to celebrate Scott Troup's birthday. We decided to head down to Racehorse Tavern for Metal Gods and Shout at the Devil. Metal Gods are a Judas Priest tribute band. They sounded great and Don Hosler was filling in on drums. It was great to see him rocking out again. The headliner of the night was Shout at the Devil, a Motely Crue Tribute. It had been a super long time since I saw these guys, and they had the place rockin! It was awesome to be able to see full bands rockin' people's faces off. The Racehorse Tavern gets so many amazing bands, month after month. They also get some regional and national bands that are passing through the area. Keep an eye on their schedule in the PA Musician Magazine every month and make plans for your next night on the town.

On a Tuesday night we headed to Copper Pub for open mic hosted by Megan and Dave. I'm so happy they started doing open mics again. It was cool to see Dave's son Grayson playing on stage. And the biggest surprise was Cindy's brother, Roger Bowyer, had his wife Michelle sing with him, and Cindy had no idea that was going to happen. Not only did Michelle crush it, but Cindy was completely shocked! We also saw, Derek Avalon, Crash Acoustic, Dr. Nyce, Hank the Buffalo, and more!

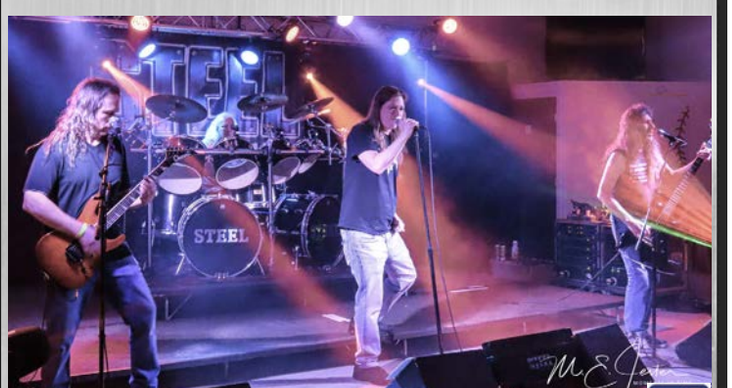
Next up was the biggest central PA party of the year, the Central Pennsylvania Music Hall of Fame's CPMA Awards show! Cindy and I got ourselves all dressed up for this special occasion. This year it was held at the American Music Theatre in Lancaster. I personally loved the venue this year. It was so much easier to move around and mingle before and after the show. There were also plenty of backdrops so everyone got their time to get their "Red Carpet" shots. They even had a concession stand with snacks! And plenty of beer lines. The theatre itself was also just gorgeous. The pre-awards show was as always, the biggest bummer, but at least this year the pre-awards people still had their chance to walk up to the stage to receive their award. The acts inducted into the Hall of Fame this year were: Soulville All-Stars, Mike Reid, The Jordan Brothers, The Innocence Mission, Anita Humes, and August Burns Red! For a hot-minute I even thought that August Burns Red was going to perform, but they had Ultraviolent cover one of their songs instead. They did a pretty good

continued on next page...

STEEL

TOUR SCHEDULE

4/26 Blue Ridge Sportsmen's Assoc. Fairfield PA 7pm
5/3 Vertical 4 Life Benefit Concert
Mechanicsburg Picnic Grounds PA 4pm
5/23 Mechanicsburg Legion, Mechanicsburg PA 8pm
6/8 Fallston Barrel House, Fallston MD 4pm



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job, and at least I had the opportunity to head bang in my fancy dress! This year I also gave out the Best Male Vocalist award to my good friend, Dr. Nyce. It was a beautiful moment to get to present Dr. Nyce with his award. He has done so much in 2024, and he does have an awesome voice! For a full listing of all of the winners this year, check out the website, www.cpmhof.com. After the show, there was an After Party at The Village in Lancaster. It's awesome to see The Village open and operational again! They did quite a few renovations, but overall the Village is still the Village! For the entertainment this year they had Bobby Gentilo host an open jam. Bobby did a great job, and if anyone wanted to play, he made sure to get them on stage. All of the music was great and had us all dancing the night away! I actually counted and I have 91 selfies from the CPMAs! HA! SELFIE TIME!!!

Friday everything was back to normal with a trip to Horn Pub for Hank the Buffalo. Hank plays every 1stFriday at the Horn Pub, and so far this year every Friday has been standing room only! They are definitely packing the place! Depending on the venue they've now permanently added Slade to the band. Did I mention, Slade can also play the drums! That guy is a beast! Hank the Buffalo has a different sized band based on the venue. Again, showing their professionalism and growth as a band, being able to flow freely between projects, and players, without missing a beat!

After their show we headed to Flinchy's for the tail end of Jessica Batz. I've heard her play a few songs at people's shows before, but this was my first full show. She had a decent crowd at Flinchy's, and we were quickly singing along to her song selection, and having a great time! I always love seeing women who rock! Especially as a solo musician, there really aren't that many in the area.

Saturday was a day of private parties. It kicked off up at Chad and Krissy's for the dueiling guitars of Matt Jameson and Dave Gates. Growing up in a house with music all the time from Dad, I absolutely love these up close and personal house parties. Just watching musicians jam out and have fun is like my comfort food. Chad and Krissy are amazing hosts and have one heck of a decorated basement, showing just how much they get out there and support live music. They have way more memorabilia than I have. Seriously almost every square inch has something awesome and special!

After their first set I headed down to Ramona's Basement, which Ramona happens to be our other writer, Eric Hoffman's, doggie. His basement was nothing like I expected. It was so awesome! And he had Steel rockin' in his basement!! Eric has invited me so many times, I'm so glad I finally made it. What an awesome experience with so many music lovers! Of course, Steel put on an amazing show and Wade kept the volumes bearable so we all weren't deaf the next day. Eric also gave me a tour of his house, and I think it's safe to say he might even have more memorabilia than Chad and Krissy. Eric had every room in house and pretty much every wall covered in something amazing. When I asked about one empty spot that I spotted, he said I need space so I can keep adding!! Ha! One way he added to his collection was going to Mom's and helping us clear out some old PA Musician Magazine issues and goodies! Cleaning out Dad's stuff wasn't easy, but Mom is looking forward to her next chapter of life in a retirement community. I'm not ready to admit Mom is that old… but I guess it's just another phase of life. I'm glad Eric got some cool stuff, because I know he will preserve it better than anyone!

Sunday Funday was a trip to Flinchy's for Ragged Grace. They sometimes play as a 3-piece this day was just Slade and Rachael Thomas. Rachael and Slade make a crazy combo because they both play multiple instruments and they sing, so their versatility already makes them amazing! I'm so glad they recently started advertising so I saw their schedule and could make it out to see them. It was one heck of a show, and a great way to spend a Sunday.

After Ragged Grace we gathered up our musical crew, and sailed the 7 seas over to Underdogs on 22 for their Pirate Party.. When I first saw it advertised I thought they misspelled Private Party.. but alas me mateys, it was definitely a pirate party! Jason Carst was the captain of the ship and us pirates donned our tattoos, and raided the ship! Our swashbuckling was quickly out of control! But luckily we were thrown a life raft, so we could continue, just at a quieter level. What a fun idea to give a Sunday afternoon a theme!

Ragged Grace

Friday was a busy one; it all started with a trip to Beerded Goat to see Matt Jameson. The Beerded Goat was so busy there wasn't a free table when we arrived. Lucky for us a table opened up quickly, and we could sit and enjoy some food and music! This kicked off Matt's St. Patty's Day craziness, so he had on a fancy hat for the occasion. He broke out his annual toasts, and a couple of fun St. Patty's day tunes.

After his first set we headed up to Liquid Noise where it was supposed to be Crash & Cross, but unfortunately Cross was under the weather, so Crasher got Roger Bowyer to fill in for him last-minute. Even though they never played together before both guys quickly adjusted to playing together and jammed the night away!

After their show, the night was still young, so a group of us continued into Perry County to the Shermans Creek Inn for Van-

continued on next page...

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The Rise Female-Fronted Festival
April 19th

The Bitch Tones
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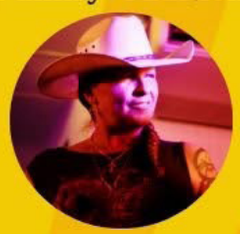

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Sat. 4/5-Private Party, Mifflintown, PA
Wed. 4/9-OPEN MIC Blue Sky Tavern, 6:30-9pm
Fri. 4/11-Horn Pub, Lewisberry, 8-11pm
Sat. 4/12-Stoney Creek, Dauphin, 7-9pm
Sun. 4/13-Antietam Brewery, MD, 2-5pm
Wed. 4/16-OPEN MIC Blue Sky Tavern, 6:30-9pm
Thurs. 4/17-Doyle Hotel, Tap Takeover, 6-9pm
Sat. 4/19-Private Event
Wed. 4/23-OPEN MIC, Blue Sky Tabern, 6-9:30pm
Fri. 4/25-Laura Mae's BBQ, Millerstown, 6-9pm
Sat. 4/26-Hershey Vineyard,Middletown, 2-5pm
Wed. 4/30-OPEN MIC, Blue Sky Tavern, 6:30-9pm

MATTJAMESONLIVE@GMAIL.COM

ishing Point. It was my first time hearing these guys, and they put on a great show! Most of their music was from the 70s to 90s, but they played a lot of my favorite, classic songs! We were quickly up dancing and having a great time. Frank was running sound and everything sounded great.

We kept things moving with our St. Patrick's Day shenanigans and on Saturday we kicked things off early with a trip to Vineyards of Hershey for Megan and Dave. We dressed up in our full St. Patty's Day gear, glitter and all! I was even wearing a tutu! Needless to say we put smiles on Megan and Dave's faces when we came bursting in the door! Megan was playing her guitar again! I think I heard her play at least six songs on guitar! Hard work really pays off. So many good times with these two! We love singing along and getting this group rowdy. Haha!

Saturday night Cindy and I parted ways, and I continued on to the Horn Pub for Frenchie's birthday, and more St. Patty's Day craziness. Matt was dawning his kilt for this performance. And even painted his hair green! The shenanigans were definitely in full force. Matt even had a pot of gold with St. Patty's Day fun to hand out and help people get all festive!

Sunday night the weekend continued when Matt hosted a special Open Jam at Blue Sky Tavern. I think everyone was pretty partied out by Sunday night, but Matt did have a few die hards show up: Justin Murphy Music, Phil Cannizzaro, Scott Crasher and Ricky. All of the musicians played a couple solo songs, but for the most part this night was a cool, laid-back jam. It was awesome watching so many musicians collaborating together and making music! Justin Murphy helped everyone through a bunch of Irish jigs to help keep the holiday flowing.

Finally, Monday came, the true St. Patrick's Day! I didn't have any plans and was hoping to get to bed early, but alas, a last minute show with Dr. Nyce at the Doyle Hotel popped up, and we just had to go! A whole group was there, and it was their 8th stop of the day… 13 hours of bar hopping and drinking! I'm so glad those days are over for me, but at least they did have a DD that was chauffeuring them all around. Dr. Nyce had a great crowd there for a last-minute show, and shenanigans were had by all! I even had a green "beer".. (sprite and food coloring.)

The following Wednesday I stopped in for the tail end of Matt's open mic at Blue Sky Tavern. I only made it there in time for the last few performances by: Derek Avalon, Rob Davis, a special duo of Colin Alvarez and Dave Gates, and Scott Crasher.

After a night of helping Mom I couldn't resist and had to stop in and catch the last part of Hank the Buffalo at Sturges Speakeasy, I just couldn't resist! Poor Stephen has been sick with the nasty cough for weeks, so he wasn't there. Chris had help from Slade, Chuck, and Crasher, but you could tell Chris was missing his sidekick.

Cindy and I actually had a chill Friday and just headed out to Snitz Creek in Annville for her brother Roger Bowyer. The place was absolutely packed because of a special veterans gathering, but they were all engaged with the music and were amazed by Roger's song choices. We also all got a special treat when Michelle got on that mic again and sang us a few songs! She's soooo good! I can't believe she's been holding out on us all this time.

After another day of packing up Mom and going through my Dad's belongings, I met Cindy at Stoney Creek for Megan and Dave's last set. Megan and Dave got me smiling and singing along in no time. I am so blessed to have amazing friends! Packing up Dad's stuff has not been easy on me.. it's the closing of yet another chapter. Having a loved one die during crazy Covid rules was so strange, when you couldn't have a proper funeral, etc.. it's really hard to get closure. We had the big Memorial Celebration Party for Dad, but it still wasn't the same. Even though it's been 4 years, sorting through his stuff, and deciding what to do with it all, was something we avoided for way too long. I'm so glad I have so much of his music, and other mementos that remind me of Dad and all of his love he had for all of us.

After Megan and Dave we zoomed up to the Doyle Hotel for more Hank the Buffalo. This time Stephen was back, so the gang was all there! I'm so glad they let Hank the Buffalo play upstairs in the ballroom so there is plenty of room for dancing! Hank has become a staple to the Doyle Hotel and their regulars love them!

On a Tuesday night I zoomed up to Shermans Creek to hear the debut of their new house band, Zavala. I heard Lydia years ago, and it was awesome to see she was back. Zavala was on the cover last month, you can still read all about them on our website, www.pamusician.net. This was also Zavala's first public show together, and they did an awesome job. Kevin Nelson really picked himself some amazing band mates. I was amazed by Tommy B's drum skillz! That was my first time seeing him play drums, and his technique is something to marvel at! Shermans Creek was packed on a Tuesday for this debut show. It was awesome to see so many people supporting live music. I even got Zack to come out with me so he could eat some of Shermans Creek's delicious wings! Good food, good times, and great music! Just three of the reasons why it's so much fun going to Shermans Creek Inn. You'll definitely be seeing more of Zavala in the near future. Keep an eye and ear out, you won't be disappointed.

continued on next page...

Hank the Buffalo

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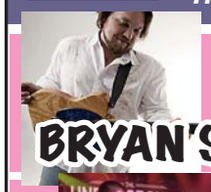
6-9pm Friday, April 4th BRYAN STEVENSON

6-9pm Saturday, April 5th JASON KNORR

Saturday, April 12th 6-9pm EVERSTORM

6-9pm Friday, April 18th BEKA JONES
6-9pm Saturday, April 19th VAUGHN HUMMEL

6-9pm Friday, April 25th JOE CIGNA

6-9pm Saturday, April 26th HANK & THE BUFFALO
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Shout at the Devil

Out & About continued....

To end the month, I managed to snag a couple of Matt Jameson Live shows, one at the VFW in Marysville. Marysville VFW has a few weeks of amazing acoustic acts. If you want to go somewhere with delicious cheap food and drinks, the VFW is the place to go!

The last night out this month was a biggie and very emotional one, saying goodbye to Hook and Flask Still Works.. it's been an amazing 5+ year run! I've seen so many different musicians grace their stage throughout the years. Even right after they opened during covid, in the freezing cold, they still had music out on the sidewalk! They went above and beyond constantly to support live music! This is a super hard hit to the music community, many musicians called this place home. Hook Was one of Matt's very first shows in June of 2022! It was crazy to see Matt Jameson Live rock the stage one final time!

The Hook was packed full of people, so we took a break from the craziness and zoomed up and over the mountain to Shermans Creek Inn for Love Rocket! And more craziness These guys are such a blast to see and hear! They play all of your favorite 90s music. It's almost like I just sat down in my first car, and popped a burned CD into the CD player and played all my favorites! Every song they play makes me yell, "Come on let's go dance!"

Ahhh.. the end of an absolute crazy month of music. One other big ending for me, is the end of my position at BRP Entertainment. I was offered a job opportunity as an Operations Manager for Elite Experiences, so I had to resign as an Event Coordinator for BRP. You will still see me around as Rachel Rocks, so don't dismay.. lol. And if you ever need a gigantic amazing place to stay for a huge family or corporate retreat let me know, I'm sure we have the perfect place!

If you see me Out and About please stop me and say Hi! If you'd like to read up on past adventures, they are all always online at www.pamusician.net. SUPPORT LOCAL MUSIC!

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NATIONALS

By Eric Hoffman

Greetings Rockers 'N' Rollers! The past month included the three best local bands currently playing in Central Pennsylvania .. Jet Silver, Steel and The Super High-Tech Jet Fighters. New Cumberland held its second annual 'The Best St. Patricks Day Party Ever' on March 15 with two concert stages on their streets. Bands featured consisted of The Swisher Sweets, The Martini Bros, Slick Willie, Crippled But Free and Jet Silver. The local town did a great job accommodating the thousands who filled the streets supporting local businesses and artists. Jet Silver were incredible with a fantastic set and sadly rumored to be one of their last shows. The band recently released their song 'Save Me' streaming on all platforms for the 25th anniversary of their debut album. Jet Silver are currently working on 4 singles over the next months and then the whole record will be available to stream. That same evening XL Live hosted Kilmaine Saints with Bubba and The Super High-Tech Jet Fighters for another St Patrick's celebration. Bubba was a great surprise coming out of retirement after many years of playing the local scene in the 90's. The Super High-Tech Jet Fighters were fantastic, heightening their music to a new level with a big stage and big sound. The local garage punk band also played Harrisburg's Strawberry Square on March 21 as part of its Music Series. The evening also featured Framed Innocent and Strangest Hearts. The Strawberry Square Music Series happens once a month, each month with different artists and free to the public. Philadelphia-area cover band, Reddio, made their debut in Reading on March 23 playing a great set of popular classic rock songs at New Bertie's Inn. Local heavy metal cover band, Steel, played Ramona's Basement in Harrisburg on March 8 with support from Junk Punk. Both bands played great sets and I'm very grateful to have had them both. Junk Punk recently released his solo debut album 'Maximum Pumped Rock' on March 1st and Steel has been rocking both Maryland and Pennsylvania for over 20 years! The Mechanicsburg-based band plays Mechanicsburg Picnic Grounds on May 3 and Mechanicsburg Legion on May 23. And, Junk Punk returns to downtown Harrisburg on April 26 at JB Lovedrafts.

Pennsylvania native Bret Michaels announced his Pa. Rock The World Homecoming Summer Super Party, coming to Hollywood Casino on June 14. The Poison frontman and Mechanicsburg native will be joined by friends Night Ranger, Quiet Riot, surprise guests and hometown heroes to make this a can't miss show. "To my family and friends in central Pennsylvania, I am so fired up to be the opening weekend of an incredible summer of great music," Michaels said. "We are gonna rock your world with my good friends Night Ranger and all their hit songs, and Quiet Riot with all their hit songs, and then they will all join me on stage for a big song at the end of the night." The event will focus on celebrating all things central Pa., including musicians, hometown heroes and veteran appreciation. LIVE and Collective Soul will team up for a tour of 30 amphitheaters across the U.S. and Canada this summer. The "Summer Unity" tour also includes Our Lady Peace and Greylin James Rue as support. LIVE spent much of 2024 on the road with Stone Temple Pilots and Soul Asylum. The final date of the tour takes place Aug 29 at Hollywood Casino at Penn Race Course in Grantville, Pennsylvania. Counting Crows are touring in support of the band's upcoming album Butter Miracle, The Complete Sweets!, which is Counting Crows' first full-length album since Butter Miracle: Suite One in 2021. The band's breakout album August and Everything in 1993 sold more than 20 million records worldwide. The tour, which features special guests The Gaslight Anthem on most dates, visits Hollywood Casino in Grantville, PA on July 3 and Merriweather Post Pavilion in Columbia, MD on July 10. Heavy metal icons Pantera will tour U.S. amphitheaters and select arenas this summer on a 29-date run alongside Swedish Viking metal pioneers Amon Amarth. The tour begins July 15 at The Pavilion At Star Lake in Burgettstown, Pennsylvania, and includes Hersheypark Stadium on July 25. The band — which includes classic members vocalist Philip H. Anselmo and bassist Rex Brown, along with guitarist Zakk Wylde and drummer Charlie Benante — is touring stadiums in support of Metallica this spring and will join Black Sabbath and Ozzy Osbourne's historic final show July 5 at Villa Park in Birmingham, England, alongside Metallica, Slayer, Gojira, Halestorm, Alice In Chains, Lamb Of God, Anthrax, Mastodon and more.

Hershey concerts in 2025 .. HERSHEYPARK STADIUM: Post Malone/Jelly Roll/Sierra Ferrell (May 28), Avril Lavigne/Simple Plan/We The Kings (June 7), Kendrick Lamar/SZA (June 16), Luke Bryan/Vincent Mason/Mae Estes (July 12), Brandon Lake/Phil Wickham/Josiah Queen (July 18), Pantera/Amon Amarth (July 25), Shania Twain (July 26), Big Time Rush/Katelyn Tarver/Stephen Kramer Glickman (Aug 1), Willie Nelson/Bob Dylan (Aug 9), HARDY/Koe Wetzel/Stephen Wilson Jr./McCoy Moore (Sept 6). Hozier (Sept 19). GIANT CENTER: Volbeat/Halestorm/The Ghost Inside (Aug 16), Keith Urban (Oct 2), Warren Zeiders

continued on next page...

Jet Silver - New Cumberland St. Patricks Day Parade

(Nov 22), HOLLYWOOD CASINO PENN HEROES STAGE: Bret Michaels (June 14), Steve Miller Band (Aug 16)

David Johansen, the last surviving member of the glam punk band the New York Dolls who later performed as his alter ego, Buster Poindexter, died at the age of 75. Johansen died Feb 28 at his home in New York City. It was revealed in early 2025 that he had stage 4 cancer and a brain tumor. "When you're an artist, the main thing you want to do is inspire people, so if you succeed in doing that, it's pretty gratifying," Johansen once stated. In 2004, former Smiths frontman and Dolls admirer Morrissey convinced Johansen and other surviving members to regroup for the Meltdown Festival in England, leading to three more studio albums. Rolling Stone would list the New York Dolls self-titled debut album at No. 301 of the 500 Greatest Albums of All Time. He is survived by his wife, Mara Hennessey, and a stepdaughter, Leah Hennessey.

Def Leppard has announced a run of summer U.S. shows with special guests Bret Michaels, The Struts, and Extreme on select dates. The tour takes place in amphitheaters across the country including Broadview Stage in Saratoga Springs, NY on July 22. In celebration of a quarter century as a band, the Yeah Yeah Yeahs will tour theaters in the UK and North America this summer. The "Hidden In Pieces" tour consists of 16-dates culminating in New York City July 29 and 30 at Beacon Theatre. Eric Clapton is headed back to the U.S. for a brief run of 6 U.S. dates including Philadelphia Wells Fargo Center Sept 13 and NYC Madison Square Garden on Sept 19. The guitar legend will be joined by special guest The Wallflowers. Clapton recently released his 22nd solo album, which features six new songs and eight previously released singles and includes collaborations with Jeff Beck, Van Morrison, Bradley Walker, Judith Hill, Daniel Santiago, and Simon Climie. The Offspring have announced a North American leg to the "SUPERCHARGED Worldwide In '25 Tour," with 34 dates across North America. Special guests Jimmy Eat World and New Found Glory join the band on the mostly-amphitheater tour. Dates include Scranton, PA Montage Mountain on July 20 and Camden, NJ Freedom Mortgage Pavilion on July 29.

Deftones have sold out many arenas on their current tour and have announced a second leg to their 2025 North American tour for a combined 51-shows. The extended dates will be supported by The Barbarians of California, and Phantogram and IDLES will support on select nights. Nearby cities include Philadelphia Wells Fargo Center on Apr 4, Washington DC Capitol One Arena Apr 6 and Baltimore CFG Bank Arena on Sept 11. Last August, Deftones and System of a Down co-headlined a sold-out concert at Golden Gate Park to a massive success, grossing $9.6 million off 50,186 tickets sold. Cyndi Lauper is wrapping up her "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun Farewell Tour" as the singer announces the final leg across North America. Lauper will take her final bow with two nights at the Hollywood Bowl in Los Angeles on Aug. 29 and 30, with a stop at Philadelphia's Mann on July 20 before then. Jake Wesley Rodgers will join Lauper as a special guest on her final 25 dates. Pixies are hitting the road this summer for 41-dates with Kurt Vile as support June 13 to Aug 1 and will be joined by My Chemical Romance at Rogers Center in Toronto on Aug. 22. Dates include Philadelphia The Fillmore July 22 & 23 and Washington DC The Anthem July 25 & 26 and Pittsburgh Stage AE on Sept 12. Neil Young and his new band The Chrome Hearts will tour Europe and North America this summer on the "Love Earth World Tour." The last iteration of the "Love Earth" tour — with Young's long-time backing band Crazy Horse — went on hiatus in June 2024 due to illness, forcing the cancellations. Young said Crazy Horse would return but has instead opted to go out with a new band. Dates include New York Jones Beach Aug 23 and Bethel, NY Bethel Center Aug 24. More dates are expected.

Guns N' Roses are parting ways with longtime drummer Frank Ferrer. The band shared the news in a statement "Guns N' Roses announce the amicable exit of Frank Ferrer, the longest-serving drummer in their storied run," they said. "The band thanks Frank for his friendship, creativity and sturdy presence over the past 19 years, and they wish him success in the next chapter of his musical journey." Frank first joined GNR during a show in June 2006 helping anchor the rhythm section during subsequent tours, including their recent outings featuring the reunited trio of Axl Rose, Slash and Duff McKagan. His last show with the band took place Nov. 5, 2023 in Mexico. Guns N' Roses did not yet announce a replacement for Ferrer.

APRIL CONCERTS: Michael Monroe - Pittsburgh Jergels Apr 3. Jay Aston - Philadelphia City Winery Apr 8. Jeffrey Gaines - State College The Attic Apr 11. Joan Jett and the Blackhearts - Shippensburg Luhrs Center Apr 11. Tommy Conwell and Young Rumblers - Lancaster Village Apr 12. MangoDog - Harrisburg Ramonas Basement Apr 19. Junk Punk - Harrisburg JB Lovedrafts Apr 26. Timmy's Creep Show / Framed Innocent / Surface Noise - Mechanicsburg Metropolis Apr 26.

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Sat Apr 5th
Tavern Presents
BARK at the MOON
Deep Purpura Tribute
With
TED POLEY
The Voice Of Danger Danger

Fri Apr 11th
Rugged Grace

Sat Apr 12th
HIGH VOLTAGE

Mon Apr 14th
Live Laugh Love Tour
UNPLUGGED
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FEATURING
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PETER DANTE
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Wed Apr 16th
MALE REVUE

Fri Apr 18th
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VERTICAL 4 LIFE A MUSICAL MISSION TO PREVENT VETERAN SUICIDE

By Josh Noll

Vertical 4 Life, based out of Dillsburg, is dedicated to preventing veteran suicide—one beat at a time. Brad Wetherbee and his team are hosting the 2nd Annual Vertical 4 Life Music Festival on May 3rd, with proceeds benefiting Cover Six Canines. The event, held at the Mechanicsburg Club Picnic Grounds, was the brainchild of Brad, who, on a whim last year, decided to create the event in support of an organization that had personally helped him.

As a veteran, Brad has faced his own struggles, admitting that the fight continues to this day. This struggle remains the driving force behind Vertical 4 Life. Brad's journey with music began at the age of 3 when he started playing piano, later switching to guitar, which quickly became his instrument of choice. Over the years, he was worked for several local bands but lost touch with the scene in the 90s. Despite this, he remained connected to the local music world, even though the music itself had faded.

VERTICAL 4 LIFE

PREVENTING VETERAN SUICIDE ONE BEAT AT A TIME

Matt Jameson

support veterans in any way possible, offering not just music, but a community of support. Drawing on his experience booking bands, Brad decided to organize a music festival as a way to give back to Cover Six Canines. The first festival was a success, despite rainy weather.

Brad & Kooper

In 2017, Brad was diagnosed with a nerve disease, which eventually left him dependent on a wheelchair by 2021. It was during this challenging time that Brad found Kooper, a small puppy who would go on to change his life. Thanks to Cover Six Canines and countless hours of training, Kooper is now Brad's psychiatric service dog. Kooper assists Brad with deep pressure therapy, detects and helps stop night tremors, aids in managing anxiety and PTSD, alerts others if Brad needs help, and even being trained to "Mush" pulling Brad in his wheelchair—though they're still in the early stages of this process. Kooper's unwavering devotion to Brad makes them a true team.

Cover Six Canines is on a mission to assist veterans and first responders by providing and training service dogs at no cost to the trainees. Applicants train alongside their dogs, developing a strong bond and learning to work together as a team. The dogs are trained for exceptional obedience, and can also be taught specific tasks based on the handler's needs. Cover Six Canines helps identify suitable candidates and evaluates dogs for potential training.

Around the same time, Brad rediscovered his love for playing guitar. Encouraged by friends like Matt Jameson, Dave Gates, and AJ Cassat, Brad found peace in making music again—a vital part of his therapy. Inspired by what music had done for him, Brad created Vertical 4 Life to

The 2nd Annual Vertical 4 Life Music Festival is shaping up to be another unforgettable event. Set at the beautiful Mechanicsburg Club Picnic Grounds, the venue features a large covered pavilion and stage, nestled in the hills of central PA. Gates open at 11:30 AM, and attendees can enjoy food, drink and merch from vendors including Williams Custom Catering, Kay Melts, Big Bottom Brewery, Barracks Baristas Coffee Company, and Metal AF. This year's lineup offers a mix of music styles, showcasing both new and seasoned local talent.

FESTIVAL LINEUP:

• 12:00 PM - **HAILEY NELSON LIVE:** A new and upcoming artist, who has played alongside Nashville transplant Nathan Merovich and has been performing her country gospel style of Americana around the Dillsburg area.

• 1:00 PM - **DAVE GATES:** The recent CPMA award-winner for Best Podcast (Solo Musician Podcast), Dave will draw from his extensive catalog of over 2,000 cover songs, keeping the crowd energized with a variety of tunes. He loves taking crowd requests, so get ready for some interactive fun!

• 2:00 PM - **HANK & THE BUFFALO:** Brace yourself for a wild time as Hank and the Herd take the

stage. With Stephen Robert and Chris Auxt leading the charge, and possibly Slade Heller on drums, you won't want to miss the high-energy performance. Don't forget to visit the "petting zoo" area for a photo with the Buffalo!

•3:00 PM - **MATT JAMESON LIVE:** As the event emcee, Matt is a big supporter of Vertical 4 Life and was instrumental in Brad's musical resurgence. Expect a full-force performance with potential collaborations from the day's performers.

•4:00 PM - **STEEL**: Get ready for a heavy-hitting rock show from this Central PA staple. Known for their hard-hitting classic metal and modern rock, STEEL never fails to deliver a high-energy head banging performance.

• 5:00 PM - **SERVICE DOG DEMO**: Take a moment to witness an inspiring service dog demonstration. You'll see firsthand how well-trained dogs work alongside their handlers, showcasing the impact your donations make. Please note, while other well-trained dogs are allowed at the event, they should stay away from the service dogs.

• 5:30 PM - **AJ CASSATT:** AJ, on his "Me, Myself, and My Guitar" tour, brings his soulful country Americana style to the stage. With his twangy guitar and heartfelt lyrics, he'll be a festival highlight.

• 7:00 PM - **COLT WILBUR BAND:** To close the festival, enjoy an amazing performance from the Colt Wilbur Band, featuring Colt on vocals and guitar, Wally Dewall on bass, and Don Carr on drums. This red dirt country soul band brings a unique blend of storytelling and rock 'n roll energy.

The festival is a rain-or-shine event. Food and drinks will be available from vendors, but feel free to bring your own beverages (BYOB). While cash is preferred, some vendors will accept credit cards. Tickets are $15 and available only at the gate. Additionally, all Vertical 4 Life merchandise ordered on the day of the festival will include free shipping. The event takes place at 80 Glendale Dr., Mechanicsburg, PA 17050.

Brad would like to extend his thanks to his board members, Sonic Productions (for sound and lighting), and the festival sponsors: Metal AF, Barracks Baristas Coffee Co., CPMHOF, The Turn 2 Terribles, Glen Hamilton and 97.3 The River, Rachel Rocks for all her help and being awesome, and Chimps Custom Graphics for assisting in setting up Vertical 4 Life's online presence.

Mark Your Calendars: Be sure to also check out the "Burn It Down Music Festival" on June 28th at the same venue, with proceeds benefiting Vertical 4 Life. This exciting event features 9 bands, including Coal, Almost Honest, Slick Willie, Mawcore, and Emily's Toybox and more! with food vendors, merch booths, and plenty of headbanging!
Later this summer, head to Carlisle for the "Classic Rock Rumble" at the Carlisle Fairgrounds—an exciting combination of music and classic cars. For more information on these events, visit the Metal AF Jewelry Facebook page.

For more details on Vertical 4 Life and Cover Six Canines, check out the links below:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/1306480226727959
https://vertical4life.com/ https://coversixcanines.org/

RIDER'S ON THE STORM

By Chris Rider

What a month it's been. We wanted to take a moment and thank everyone for all of their help, love & support over the last 6 months. Wendy and I are moved in and slowly getting settled, turning this place from a house in to our home. Life is getting to a level of "new normal" as we adjust. We even adopted a puppy two days ago, much sooner than we had originally planned. Between the move and the adoption process, it did limit the amount of time I had to get out for live music this month so I apologize for a shorter article than normal. This next month will continue to settle down for us and I'm definitely going to start making up for lost time, capturing our great local music scene.

We start off the month with a two-fer: The Badlees once again did a 2-night stint at the beautiful Englewood in Hershey. Friday night, the show was opened by The Armadillos. The guys don't play a lot of shows nowadays, but they certainly didn't forget HOW to put on a great show. Excellent musicianship, great crowd interaction…playing songs like It's Only Love, Dear Prudence, Dreams, and more got the ample crowd ramped up and moving. Next up, The Badlees took control of the stage with all the charisma and energy that any fan of them is used to experiencing. Songs like Not Here Anymore, Angeline, Fear of Falling, an amazing version of Locomotive Breath captured the hearts of everyone in the room. The following evening was opened up by a group that I was introduced to a few years ago at one of The Badlees shows…Hot Wing Jones. Playing their style of music that spans from classic rock to roots and even maybe a little Americana, the guys played with an energy and enthusiasm that did an awesome job of warming up the crowd for the evening. The Badlees then took the stage for night two. The first night was a great night, but something was just a little more electric for night two. I've no idea if it was the crowd, the weather, what the band had for dinner that night…but night two was just more "on". With songs like Four Leaf Clover, Hindsight, Anodyne, as well as incredible versions of Amazing Grace and Paint It Black; it was a great night of music.

The following week, Wendy and I made the now short trip down to the Dillsburg VFW for a Vertical 4 Life St Patty's Day Party. Unfortunately we got there just as AJ Cassatt was finishing up so I'm going to have to catch him here sometime in the future. We did however get to finally see the Colin Alvarez Band who I've heard so much about. Wendy and I agreed, it was worth the wait. Colin and the guys had a beautiful bluesy/southern rock sort of feel as they effortlessly cruised through songs like Statesboro Blues, Come Together, and Change in my pocket, as well as a few banging original tunes. Heck, the guys even played Free Bird when it was yelled out by someone in the crowd, and I believe that's got to be the first time I've seen that happen LOL.

My last trip out was up to the famous Shermans Creek Inn for the debut performance of their new house band, Zavala. Troy somehow managed to put together a house band chock full of local talent and after only nine practices together, they put on a fantastic show for a packed house on a TUESDAY NIGHT of all nights! Look for them to play one or two Tuesday nights each month going forward. Zavala has a big party band vibe going to them covering songs like Valerie, Funky Town, Celebration, and even a really cool mashup of four or five disco tunes. It was a

ton of fun and I even got to see Rachel Rocks and Zack there as well. The food was great as it always is (Tuesday nights are Taco Nights at the Creek by the way!), and as always, NO COVER CHARGE for the music.

So there it is, my month of music through my eyes and ears. I want to once again thank all the bands, venues, and everyone else involved in our incredible local music scene for everything they do. Just a reminder: if you've got a show coming up that I should see; make sure to send me an invite, shoot me an email or a message, let me know about it. Venues: please don't hesitate to reach out to me as well. The majority of the shows that I go and shoot I find out about through invites from all of you or your friends. Hit me up on facebook: @chrisriderphotography or email: chrisriderphotography@gmail.com, stop me if you see me out, say hi. Until next month...go find some live music and give them and the venue your support, they truly need it more now than they ever did.

THE UNUSUAL GUESTS

2025 SCHEDULE (so far!)

Booking For 2025! Email TheUnusualGuests@gmail.com

Date	Time	Venue
January 10, 2025	7 - 10 pm	Linglestown American Legion, Linglestown
January 18, 2025	7 - 10 pm	Big Bottom Brewery, Dillsburg
February 1, 2025	7 - 10 pm	Back Porch Brewing, Carlisle
February 22, 2025	8 pm - 12 am	Hollywood Casino, Grantville
March 22, 2025	7 - 10 pm	Shermans Creek Inn, Shermansdale
April 4, 2025	7 - 10 pm	Back Porch Brewing, Carlisle
April 26, 2025	7 - 10 pm	Big Bottom Brewery, Dillsburg
May 3, 2025	7 - 10 pm	Back Porch Brewing, Carlisle
June 20, 2025	7 - 10 pm	Linglestown American Legion, Linglestown
August 2, 2025	7 - 10 pm	Big Bottom Brewery, Dillsburg
August 29, 2025	8 - 11 pm	Shermans Creek Inn, Shermansdale
November 8, 2025	7 - 10 pm	Big Bottom Brewery, Dillsburg
November 21, 2025	7 - 10 pm	Dillsburg American Legion, Dillsburg
December 20, 2025	8 - 11 pm	Carlisle Moose Lodge, Carlisle

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THE PROFESSOR

By Jim Price

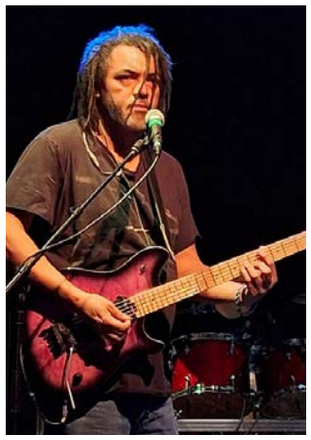
Warm weather is inching its way back as Spring is under way, and live music begins to head back outside this month. Several early season festivals have already been announced, and the outdoor music season is already shaping up to be a busy one. I'm looking forward to all of it!

The arrival of some late winter celebrations sparked some live music in recent weeks. For Fat Tuesday last month, Johnstown's Venue Of Merging Arts (VOMA) celebrated by presenting a special evening of live jazz courtesy of Jazz In Your Face. While a full house enjoyed Po' Boy sandwiches and jambalaya, Jazz In Your Face – director, drummer and singer Mike Bodolosky, Josh Hillard on trumpet, Matt Brown on trombone, Bob Scholl on clarinet, Mike Meketa on keys and Mike Alberts on acoustic bass – played a variety of New Orleans and classic-styled jazz, blues and standards. Some of their numbers this night included Jelly Roll Morton's "Kansas City Stomp" and Duke Ellington's "Things Ain't What They Used to Be"; also New Orleans favorites like the traditional "Iko Iko," a request for Louis Armstrong's "Do You Know What It Means to Miss New Orleans," and the joyous night-ending rendition of "When the Saints Go Marching In." These musicians were clearly having fun, and the audience fed off that enthusiasm to elevate the mood and energy of the night.

During St. Patrick's weekend last month, the Venue Of Merging Arts welcomed York-based folk performers The Wild Hymns. Folk award winners at the 2025 Central PA Music Awards (CPMA's), The Wild Hymns duo of singer Megan Woodland and guitarist

Melissa Vella & Doug Cruse of Bomb Cyclones

Jeff Hewitt demonstrated their style of traditional folk sounds, mixing original songs with select covers. With Jeff providing delicate acoustic guitar textures and Megan singing with a gentle, smooth voice, The Wild Hymns introduced original numbers such as "Five Dollars," "Skeleton Woman," "You Should Love Her" (dedicated to Mother Earth), "S**t Show" and "I Wonder. They also performed renditions of Fleetwood Mac's "Dreams," the English folk tune "So Early in the Spring," Bob Dylan's "I Shall Be Released," Neil Young's "Only Love Can Break Your Heart," the Bee Gees' "To Love Somebody," Bob Marley's "Waiting In Vain" and The Carter Family's "Wildwood Flower." Through it all, Megan and Jeff played off one another with gentle, minimal arrangements, and were well-received by the VOMA audience.



Rich Johnson of Bomb Cyclones

Chris Myers & Jake Yarnish of Full Kilt w/ Jim Price

Last month's St. Patrick's season brought about Dauber's 15th Annual St. Patrick's Day Party, which again took place at the Gallitzin American Legion's Oriental Ballroom, with proceeds helping out the legion and the Gallitzin Fire Company. (The event is named after its founder, Christopher "Dauber" Cox, a longtime member and officer with the Gallitzin Fire Company who passed away in 2022 after a valiant fight against cancer.) Hundreds of green-clad attendees again filled the room to celebrate Dauber, St. Patrick's Day, food, libations, friends, and live

Mandy, Mike & Chris of Full Kilt

music from Full Kilt and the Giants Of Science. As dinner was served, Full Kilt kicked off the music with their mix of Irish and Celtic rock, traditional Irish folk and drinking songs, Irish takes on popular rock songs and more. Singer and guitarist Mike Zerbee, bassist and singer Chris Myers, fiddler Mandy Passmore-Ott and drummer Jake Yarnish played two sets, keeping people and inflatable leprechauns dancing as they did numbers from Great

continued on next page..

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Big Sea, Gaelic Storm, Carbon Leaf, Steve Earle, Flogging Molly, Dropkick Murphys, U2, Van Morrison and many others. Some of their highlights included Mandy's fiddle fireworks during "An Irish Party on Third Class" (from the film "Titanic"), the annual clapping contest during "Whiskey in the Jar," the group's Irish takes on the Rolling Stones' "Paint It Black," Queen's "Fat Bottomed Girls" and Charlie (Mc)Daniels' "The Devil Went Down to (Dublin), and their closing sing-along rendition of Smokie's 1977 hit "Living Next Door to Alice." After prize baskets were given away, the Giants Of Science immediately packed the dance floor, starting with Midnight Oil's "Beds Are Burning" and continuing with their nonstop mixture of 1980s, 70s, 90s and other favorites. Singer and guitarist Mick, singer and keyboardist Scotty B, bassist and singer Johnny 5 and drummer Shumac kept the party going with songs from Green Day, the Cars, Violent Femmes, Ramones, Simple Minds, Men At Work, Georgia Satellites, Soft Cell, Sublime, The Killers, Dexy's Midnight Runners and more. The Giants welcomed a few guests onto the stage along the way, including Second Hand Monkey's JR "The Worm" West, Full Kilt's Chris Myers, "Spiderman" behind the drum kit, audience members and more.

Brian Walker of the BSXpress

I then finished up my St. Patrick's Day shenanigans at Molly's Pub in Altoona, who celebrated the occasion with Irish food specials and libations plus live music. West Virginia-based singer and songwriter Nick Price was wrapping up his performance as I arrived, and he had the crowd happy and hollering with his version of Rehab's "Sittin' at a Bar" and more. As I ordered up some seasonal shepherd's pie, Lauren & Joe Acoustic continued the acoustic festivities with a wide mixture of classics and favorites. The wife-and-husband duo of singer Lauren and guitarist and singer Joe George provided the music backdrop to the festive crowd with numbers from George Michael, Gin Blossoms, CCR, Billy Joel, John Mellencamp, Bonnie Raitt, Ben E. King, Cranberries, Lady Gaga, Fleetwood Mac and others.

My original game plan on a Friday last month was to head to Jergel's Rhythm Grille in Warrendale (north of Pittsburgh) to see Vandenberg namesake and former Whitesnake guitarist Adrian Vandenberg in concert, with Pittsburgh's Radio 45 as one of the openers. However, Vandenberg's singer took ill and they had to cancel out of the concert. But the show must go on, and Radio 45 played the entire night with free admission. Since I had already booked a nearby hotel room and it was non-refundable, I stuck to my plan and proceeded to Jergel's (on a snowy night) to take in Radio 45's performance. I'm glad I did; this group is evolving into something unique and special. Besides developing an arsenal of their own songs, Radio 45 – singer and guitarist Gary Bickerstaff, lead guitarist and singer Aaron Greer, bassist C. Scott Gilbert and drummer Mark "M-Sexy" Wesesky – have developed three different tribute acts: Echo (Tom Petty tribute), Streets (U2 tribute) and Budokan (Cheap Trick tribute). This night's show blended music from all four projects, with a few extra surprises thrown in. Opening with Cheap Trick's "Dream Police," Radio 45 mixed numbers from all three of their tributes plus a couple of their originals. They introduced their newest original, "Good Dawg," which they are using to raise awareness for Animal Friends, a Pittsburgh area pet rescue; and they performed a popular song from their 2023 "Transcendence" EP, "Come Alive." As Radio 45 delivered crisp and on-target renditions of the music of Cheap Trick, Tom Petty and U2, they precisely coordinated concert footage of all three bands on adjacent video screens. The group occasionally included songs from other artists, doing the Journey double-shot of "Stone in Love" into "Lights" early in the show, later doing a Van Halen tribute with Aaron in the spotlight as he scorched on his own version of Eddie's "Eruption" solo into "You Really Got Me," and – for the finale – closing out the night with Prince's "Purple Rain," again with Aaron's guitar solo work taking the spotlight. Radio 45 will issue their first full-length album, "Art Is War," later this spring.

Kyle & Pissed Off Christoff of Owned by A**holes

Noah Keller of Abstentious

State College's Astral Shakedown made their first visit to Altoona's Levity Brewing Co. last month. Seven members strong, Astral Shakedown took the Levity audience on a journey through jazz, jam, rock, soul and funk frontiers, crafting and riding catchy grooves along the way. Lead singer Kate Terry and backing singer Christine Zoerner blend their voices for some captivating harmonies, backed by guitarist Dipak Sahoo, bassist Ed Colby, keyboardist Lorn Ray, saxophonist and percussionist Erik Paredes, and drummer Ben Tolton. Their original numbers blend soulful melodies and groovy rhythms, often stretching into energetic, immersive jams. Their cover repertoire offers variety, and the group's own arrangements makes their cover selections their own. This night, Astral Shakedown captivated the Levity audience with their renditions of Fleetwood Mac's "Dreams" and "The Chain," Aretha Franklin's "Chain of Fools," the Classics 4's "Spooky," Paul McCartney & Wings' "Let Me Roll It," the Beatles' "Oh Darling," Steve Miller Band's "Fly Like an Eagle," Grateful Dead's "Shakedown Street" and Stevie Wonder's "Superstition." Astral Shakedown's performance left a good impression on the Levity audience, and a return visit would appear likely.

Altoona's Ryan Matthew brought his country sounds to Levity Brewing Co. late last month. Armed with his acoustic guitar, Ryan entertained onlookers with his upbeat blend of modern country, folk, pop, rock and other favorites. He played multiple

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The Professor continued....

numbers from Kenny Chesney and Toby Keith, and also did favorites from the Zac Brown Band, Blake Shelton, Luke Combs, Eric Church, Chris Stapleton, George Strait, David Lee Murphy, Morgan Wallen and more. He honored several requests along the way, including Old Crow Medicine Show's "Wagon Wheel," Jordan Davis' "Next Thing You Know" and Kenny Chesney's "All The Pretty Girls" and others. And besides the music, Ryan tested

Josh Hillard & Bob Scholl of Jazz In Your Face

the audience's knowledge of TV show theme songs, rewarding first correct answers with free beer tokens. Ryan's personable and casual approach plus his steady and sturdy voice kept the audience happy and engaged through the evening. Ryan returns to Levity Brewing on July 26 for a special Jimmy Buffett-themed night with fellow acoustic performer Cousin Mike.

I caught several shows at McGarvey's in recent weeks, including the late February "Friday 5" bash. Five bands were involved; work duties prevented me from seeing openers The Daylight Society, but I did arrive in time for the last few songs from Clearfield horror-punk rockers Less Than Zero. This was the group's final appearance for the time being as they go on indefinite hiatus. Next was The BSXpress with their rampaging brand of original punk rock. Celebrating his birthday this night, singer and guitarist Brian Walker led the group with his throaty roar, accompanied by guitarist Nick Bayer, bassist Sam Edgar and drummer Dean Kepner. The BSXpress fired off multiple short and sweet punk anthems from their latest album "Round THE Bend" such as "Fascist Theology," "Your Life," "What Do You Know," "Gas Station Chicken Salad," "Lobbyist," "Hometown Curse," "You Make My Eyes Wanna Puke" and "Soulcrusher." State College's Owned By A**holes followed with their all-out, hard-hitting punk blast. Guitarists and singers Kyle and Pissed Off Christoff, bassist Balls and drummer Josh delivered no-holds-barred, slamming punk assaults; including their title song "Owned By A**holes," "Plastic Bong," "Wind Bag," "Verbal Vomit," "What's It All For," "I Quit" and more. Celebrating their five-year anniversary as a band this night, Altoona's Abstentious closed out the night with their feverish brand of

Mike Bodolosky of Jazz In Your Face

punk-fueled rock. It's been cool to witness this group's growth in five years; the founding pair of singer and bassist Noah Keller and drummer Jake Hicks, plus guitarists Jaxon Swisher and Gage Ickes have evolved their sound from fast and furious punk rock into numbers with more tempo shifts and varying intensities. Abstentious can still deliver lots of velocity – evidenced this night by their earlier assaults "Off the Wall" and "Means Well, Oh Well" – but they're bringing more variations to the table. Abstentious had a good-sized crowd going delirious over their tunes, and appropriately slammed the lid on this night.

John Brehm of the JW Project

I also caught two-thirds of a triple-performer bill at McGarvey's early last month. I arrived too late to see opener Kevo Can't Dance, but did get there in time to see Altoona ska-rockers Tom Nevers Field. Eight members strong this night, Tom Nevers Field delivered a powerful set as they blended newer and older original songs. Some of their songs included "Hey Mr. Newsman," "Impossible," the recently-released "Not My Enemy," "Keep It Safe," "Ticking Timebomb," "Perfect Eyes" and "Truth." All elements of this group, from guitars to rhythm section to horns, executed strongly and sounded balanced. Finishing up this bill was The JW Project. John Brehm sings lead vocals while Wes Shriner plays acoustic guitar. This pair played heartfelt, darker-toned original numbers such as "This Cancer," "Letters Home," "Mind Games," "Dying," "On The River Bank" and more. John offered a gritty howl out front, backed by Wes' intense strums on the guitar. Overall, an impressive set.

The Bomb Cyclones churned the stage at McGarvey's at full strength late last month. Mellissa Vella is back on the lead microphone, joining guitarist and singer Kenny Karlheim, bassist and singer Doug Cruse, lead guitarist Rich Johnson and drummer Paul Caracciolo II. Bomb Cyclones performed a variety of hard rock and soul, with an emphasis on the 1990s; they sounded strong on numbers from Chris Isaak, Royal Blood, The Refreshments, Tom Petty, Fleetwood Mac, Stone Temple Pilots, Lady Gaga, Metallica, Fuel, Heart, Collective Soul, Velvet Revolver and many more. Mellissa delivered a strong and soul-laden voice up front, and Kenny and Doug also sounded strong in the vocal roles, especially during the final set when Mellissa rested her voice and let them show what they could do. Watch for increased sightings of Bomb Cyclones on area stages in coming months.

Aaron Greer of Radio 45

And I saw the father-and-son tandem of Rhyne & Tabyn McCormick early last month at the Spring Dam Brewing Co. in Roaring Spring. As I arrived, the pair – Rhyne on guitar and lead vocals and Tabyn on guitar – was joined by Randy Servello on drums and vocals, plus Michael Gassler on bass. Rhyne and Tabyn introduced several new original songs as they work on a new album; one of them this night was "The Secret." The final set featured a wide variety of covers, done in Rhyne & Tabyn's own distinctive flavor. They did renditions of Rick Astley's "Never Gonna Give You Up," a

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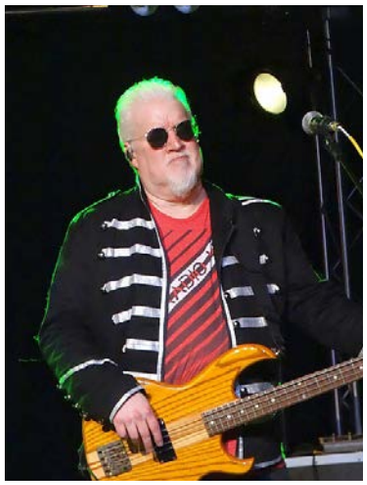
blues/jazz version of Michael Jackson's "Billie Jean," a bluesy rock'n'roll take on Van Halen's "Ice Cream Man," plus songs from Tom Petty, Black Crowes, Rolling Stones, John Mellencamp, Jimi Hendrix, AC/DC, and for the encore, an Americana rock version of Johnny Cash's "Ring of Fire." Rhyne, Tabyn and Randy return to Spring Dam Brewing Co. on April 12.



C. Scott Gilbert of Radio 45

News and notes…Altoona-based heavy blues-rockers Sweet Desire have hooked up with Pittsburgh-based booking and promotion agency Bald Hippie Productions; the group has announced a series of show dates throughout the country through most of this year, including various parts of Pennsylvania, also Nashville, New York, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Maryland, West Virginia, Florida and more…

Tabyn & Rhyne McCormick

Clearfield-based contemporary Christian band On The Mend has been nominated to win Kindred Ministries' "Contemporary Band" award after first winning the award last year. The Kindred Awards recognize groups and performers from a five-state area in a variety of Christian music categories and genres; the 10th annual Kindred Awards will be presented on June 21 in Norristown…Blair County rockers Jack Squat have decided to go their separate ways after a six-year run on area stages…Party rockers Second Hand Monkey have also disbanded; several group members are assembling a new band project…Bob Helbig, Aaron Wolf and John Shimko have assembled a new band called Booby Trap; performing hits from the 50s, 60s, 70s and 80s, their debut performance happens in early July…Former Stix and Stones frontman and guitarist Morgan James has announced his new band; the name of the new project is Jagstone…Singer Matt Stoyanoff is parting ways with popular area heavy rock and metal group Avenue Of Kings; the group is currently seeking a new frontman to replace him.

Please send correspondence and recordings to: Jim Price, 1104 S. Catherine St., Altoona, PA 16602. You can also e-mail me at jptheprofessor@gmail.com. And if you're into social networking, look me up on Facebook. SUPPORT LOCAL MUSIC!

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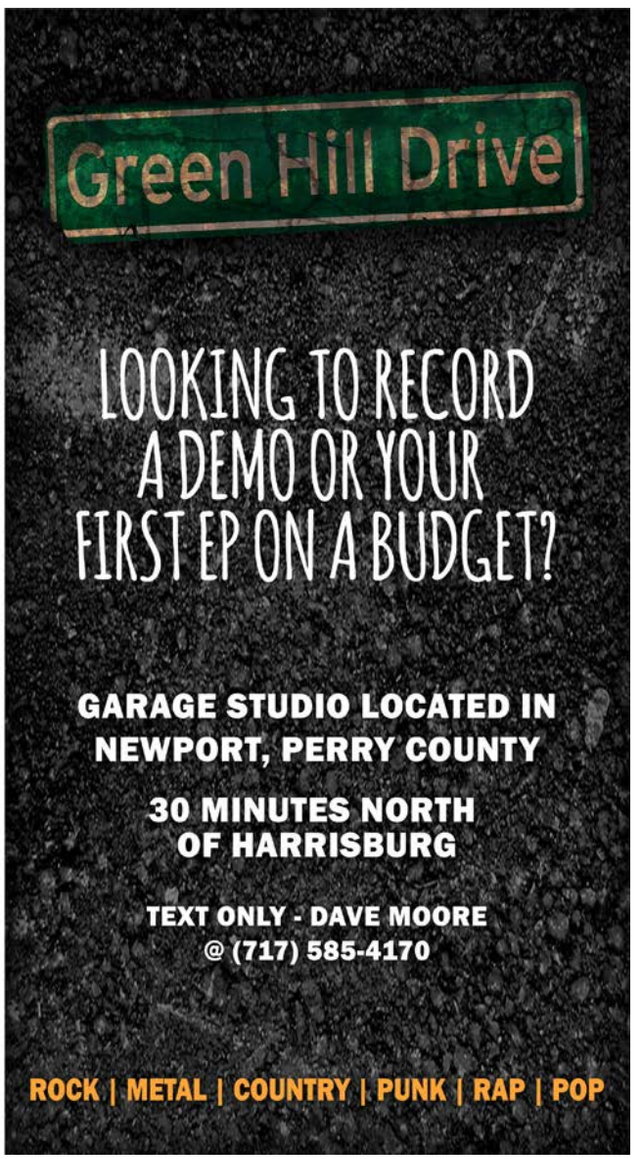
PA MUSICIAN REVIEWS

By Jim Price

WAX MEKANIX – *PSYCHOTOMIMETIC* (Electric Talon Records) A long time ago in a galaxy far away, Waxim "Wax" Ulysses Mekanix played drums and sang as Tim Wilson, a founding member of Centre County-based hard rockers Nitro. In his current creative incarnation, Wax – now singer and multi-instrumentalist – continues to boldly explore rocking horizons with a multitude of angles on his second full-length album, "Psychotomimetic."

Continuing and advancing the "conversation" with his audience that started with his 2021 debut set "Mobocracy," Wax again ties together elements of classic, modern, progressive and psychedelic rock with muses about today's chaotic society, hope, the future, the cosmos and more over seven action-packed tracks. There is never a dull moment here, as Wax taps into the past, addresses the present and considers the future; armed with a large cast of musicians and studio personnel to help him bring his visions to life. The Beatles clearly surface as a past reference point and launching pad, as Wax reimagines three Fab Four classics within the filter of his own imagination and creativity; the album-opener "Pillars of Creation" seems to reset the Beatles' "Norwegian Wood" as a pillar to spark creativity and hope. Later in the set, "Jeremy Hillary" references a fictional character from the Beatles-inspired 1968 animated film "Yellow Submarine" and incorporates the hit "Nowhere Man," which the Beatles identify with the character in the film. And "Shrew's Fiddle" finds Wax reimagining how the Beatles' "She Said She Said" from the "Revolver" album might have fared had he joined John Lennon during that song's creation. Wax confronts societal divisions and questions social and other media that seed those divisions on the edgy and hard-hitting "Once Upon A Lie," while fear of the end times sparks the fire-and-brimstone gospel-toned rants of repentance on the hard-pounding "Two Left Feet"; these are two of three songs on the album where Crobot's Brandon Yeagley sings backing vocals. While most of the album is hard-rocking, Wax digs emotionally deeper on two milder tracks to close the album; starting and ending with a retro vinyl record crackle that sandwiches an orchestral midsection string passage, "Key to the End of the World" finds Wax pondering what he would do if handed such a key, given the state of today's chaotic world. The album then finishes with the reflective piano-and-voice ballad "Look At You Now," as Wax has an internal discussion about the ups and downs of his life experience. As with "Mobocracy," this album delivers on musical and cerebral fronts. On one front, Wax acknowledges a key influence – the Beatles – and cleverly illustrates how that influence triggers his fascination and his own creativity. But he also frames that within the context of today's crazy world and the current forces that affect ideas and creativity. On another front, this album stays musically busy from start to end with its wide array of contributors, plus vocal layering and effects which help keep this journey moving along. Recorded at locations in Philadelphia and Austin, Texas, this album sounds full, lively and colorful. "Psychotomimetic" offers a strong, fascinating and brain-stirring listen, as Wax Mekanix digs into his own musical soul and psyche to deliver a riveting album. (The album can be obtained through Wax's and Electric Talon Records' Bandcamp pages, and can be found on various online streaming sites.)

THE BSXPRESS – *ROUND THE BEND* (no label) First formed in 2009, Altoona-based punk rockers The BSXpress have developed a steady presence on local and regional punk-rocking stages in recent years. On their second CD, "Round THE Bend," The BSXpress crash down full-throttle with 13 songs that clock in at under 25 minutes. The group mixes punk, heavy and classic metal elements into a rampaging assault, defined by the throaty roar of frontman and guitarist Brian Walker, the go-for-broke beats of drummer Dean Kepner and creeping bass lines from Nick Bayer. (Since the CD's release, the group has added new bassist Sam Edgar, with Nick moving to second guitar.) The group's songs range from short and frantic punk blasts to crunchy midtempo rockers. Only three numbers exceed two minutes – a pair of nearly three-minute "epics" in the disc-opening rumbler "Sound Check" and the raging update of Suicidal Tendencies' "Subliminal," plus the slightly over two-minute verbal beatdown cover of the Angry Samoans' "You Stupid A**hole." The BSXpress hits on angrier political themes; touting the "separation of church and state" on the speedy rant "Fascist Theology," and launches a tirade about the D.C. scene on the 50-second "Lobbyist." Brian also celebrates a video game anthem with "Mortal Kombat," warns of the perils of service station cuisine on "Gas Station Chicken Salad," laments his local luck on "Home Town Curse," and shares pleasantries toward another adversary on the scorching "You Make My Eyes Wanna Puke." The BSXpress delivers their material all-out and with reckless abandon, warts and all. Brian roars his words with authority, and the group's instrumental execution is appropriately raw and unpolished. Self-recorded and produced in a home studio, "Round THE Bend" sounds gritty, edgy, full-frontal and in your face. The BSXpress unleashes their fury and has fun doing it on "Round THE Bend," yielding a rambunctious, rowdy listen. (The CD can be obtained at the group's live shows and through their website www.thebsxpress.com, and can be accessed on streaming websites.)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FOR SALE: Kustom DE-1200HD bass head. 1200 watt hybrid tube amp in like new condition. Asking $350. Too much power for me. 717-389-5585.

FOR SALE: Yamaha NS-10M studio monitors. Hot House S400 control room amplifier. Selling as a package, not individually. 610-223-4236.

FOR SALE: Ampeg B328 bass combo amp rare vintage awesome! 2 8" speakers $499 call 717-580-7690

FOR SALE: Littlite gooseneck task lights. Portable lighting for mixing boards, podiums and more. 610-223-4236

FOR SALE: PRESONUS FIRESTUDIO AUDIO INTERFACE 8 mic pre's Includes MONITOR STATION REMOTE, software, manuals, AC power supply. Excellent condition. 610-223-4236

FOR SALE:Large CD collection. 1585 CD's only .65 ea. Categories include classic pop/rock, jazz, blues, country etc. Sold as a lot only. Not individually. 610-223-4236

FOR SALE:STUDIO REMOTE CONTROL HOLDER. Custom-made, moveable cart designed for studio engineer/producers. Easy to move on carpet as well as hard floors. 610-223-4236

FOR SALE: Vintage microphones (need testing). Midland, model 22-211. Electro-Voice, model 664 Fenton dynamic, model DM-109. Shure model CR-80 (CR-81). 610-223-4236

FOR SALE: Cassette case album recorders like new; 1 Recorder cost $25 each; Buy 2 recorders and the cost is $35 for both; Buy all 20 for $400 call 717-271-1229 email: joeywelz@dejazzed.com

FOR SALE: Rock & Roll recording star Joey Welz from Bill Haley & the Comets selling all of his Cassette albums over 400 of his 50 different albums $1,750. for 400+cassettes. call 717-271-1229 email Joeywelz@dejazzed.com

FOR SALE: 45 Record Collection: Joey Welz is selling all of his 45 oldies records from the 50's to the 80's. Total 40 boxes full, total 2000 45's Asking $5000.00 call 717-271-1229 email: joeywelz@dejazzed.com

FOR SALE: Album Collection: Joey Welz from Bill Haley's Comets selling all albums collected from the 50s to the 80s total albums = 3350. Asking $2,000 call 717-271-1229 email: joeywelz@dejazzed.com

DEADLINE
for May 2025 issue of the PA Musician Magazine...
APRIL 24th!!!

CLASSIFIED NOTES

FIRST 25 WORDS FREE

MUSICIANS WANTED
MUSICIANS AVAILABLE
& EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

To place your FREE Classified Note Email to: JoshNoll@pamusician.net. Submit your "Note" along with your phone number and area code...Or fill out the form (one word per space). CLEARLY print your NOTE along with your AREA CODE & PHONE NUMBER. Send it to: PA MUSICIAN MAGAZINE, 178 ANDY STROUP RD. LIVERPOOL, PA 17045

CHECK ONE:

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$8 for 25 words or less, 30¢ each additional Word.

___EQUIPMENT
FREE first 25 words or less, 10¢ each additional word.

___MUSICIAN WANTED
FREE first 25 words or less, 10¢ each additional word.

___MUSICIAN AVAILABLE
FREE first 25 words or less, 10¢ each additional word.

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DEADLINE: 20th of Each Preceding Month!

Pennsylvania Musician reserves the right to REFUSE any ad it deems unsuitable.
ADS RECEIVED WITHOUT PAYMENT WILL NOT BE PRINTED!
ALL Money Making situations are considered Businesses
BAND SCHEDULES & BOOKING INFORMATION WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AS CLASSIFIEDS.

MUSICIANS WANTED:

WANTED: Portage PA: Drummer and Bass player wanted for original no play out home recording and YouTube video. Must be 50 plus in age voicemail 814-322-7515.

WANTED: Acoustic, Electric Guitar player with some Lead ability, to play and sing Lead, harmony vocals with Experienced Bass player singer for Acoustic Duo playing gigs. Call: 484-345-0266

WANTED & AVAILABLE: Carlisle area blues/folk guitarist/vocals seeking local musicians. Would be excited to play in a band setting or smaller acoustic type gigs. Taylor 717-448-7573.

WANTED: Bass player wanted for working rock cover band in Bedford/Altoona area. Text or call 814-327-5497.

WANTED: Classic Rock band being formed to play in the State College area. Seasoned Bass player and drummer are looking for a male lead singer - tenor with good range, keyboardist who can sing backups, and guitarist to handle rhythm and lead. We are committed to being the best band in the area and need others who want the same. Classic Rock from the 70's and 80's, meaning no metal, grunge, punk. We practice in Spring Mills and look to play once a week and special events. Call 814-412-0396, leave message for Randall saying your name, what you play and how best to contact you.

WANTED: HBG area guitarist looking for other musicians to play with as a pass time to start with. if its a go-then we move ahead. call 223-241-8123

WANTED:: South Central Junction seeks a male tenor and a keyboardist. Swing Funk, Jazz, Blues, etc Rehearse every Thursday in Lancaster 6:30-9:30 pm Call Robbie 717-201-0578

WANTED: Singer for 80's metal band Male or Female. High energy professional vocals required. South York area text 717-683-8625 for more info

WANTED: Lancaster Rock band looking for bassist email mattmis42@gmail.com if interested. More info upon request

WANTED: Working band needs bass and lead guitar players Williamsport area country and classic rock 570-415-8016

WANTED Anyone want to form a Def Lep tribute band? You have to be able to sing. Mike 717-386-1205

WANTED: Lead Guitar needed for 80's metal band. This is not a startup! Practice Sundays in Red Lion, Pa. Backing vocals a plus. Text 717-683-8625

WANTED: Singer/songwriter seeking percussionist/drummer and bass player for acoustic based music. Originals and reworked covers. Robesonia. Don 484-769-7231

MUSICIANS AVAILABLE:

AVAILABLE: looking for established band near York Co. I sing and have PA and some other gear. 717-699-9542.

AVAILABLE: Bassist 5-string very experienced. Classics covers or originals and vocals. Looking for working or near-working band. Have PA/Lightshow. Will travel. Call 610-914-6914.

AVAILABLE Six string guitarist looking to join an up and running band. can play what ever you can dish out. HBG area have equip and trans 223-241-8123

AVAILABLE: Experienced drummer professional equipment blah blah blah. Rock modern country. I can play i can't sing. I can be that missing piece. Let's rock. 484-332-4729.

AVAILABLE: Bass player seeking startup or established band in the Harrisburg area. Rock 60's to current. 717 574-9273

AVAILABLE: Keytar-synth player "can sit in with your band" sound of Giuffria, Ezp, Angel promo cd available AFM union scale no freebies Altoona area 443-310-1325

AVAILABLE: Professional drummer available many years of experience playing rock, pop, country, blues, etc. Can sing, play to a click or tracks Central PA preferred Call 570-898-4713

AVAILABLE: Bass Player with vocals looking for 80's/90's Rock band. Good Attitude, Looking for same. Reading, Berks County Area. Good Equipment. Looking to play out. Call:484-345-0266

AVAILABLE: Drummer in Harrisburg 45 years old, very experienced in rock, funk, blues, jazz serious inquiries call Chris 717-507-2811

***DEADLINE** for May 2025 issue of the PA Musician Magazine...*
APRIL 24th!!!

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UPCOMING SHOWS

SATURDAY, MAY 17
THE TRINITY PRESENTS
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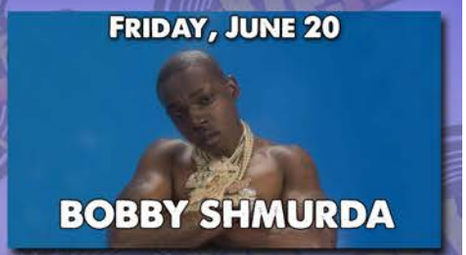
PERFORMING "DO OR DIE" IN ITS ENTIRETY
CLUB REVERB
MICHAEL MCCOLGAN OF DROPKICK MURPHYS
DO OR DIE SET



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